

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 BANGKO 32668 011024Z

50 45

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 L-03 DHA-02

CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01

/056 W

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R 010946Z DEC 76

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6672

INFO AMEMBASSY RANGOON

C O N F I D E N T I A L BANGKOK 32668

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV, PINT, BR, TH

SUBJECT: STATUS OF TWO STAFFERS OF WORKING PEOPLE'S DAILY  
WHO FLED TO THAILAND

REF: A) BANGKOK 31941, B) RANGOON 3865

1. CASE OF TWO STAFFERS OF WORKING PEOPLE'S DAILY WHO FLED  
TO THAILAND (REFS) HAS THUS FAR ATTRACTED NO RPT NO PUBLIC  
OR MEDIA INTEREST IN BANGKOK. THERE IS NO RPT NO RECORD  
THAT THEY HAVE APPLIED FOR U.S. VISAS.

2. DECEMBER 1 EMBASSY RECEIVED LETTER FROM U SOE MIN,  
DATED NOV. 25 AND POSTMARKED IN MAE SOT (CAPITAL OF  
DISTRICT IN TAK PROVINCE NORTHWEST OF BANGKOK) NOV. 27,  
STATING THAT HE AND HIS CO-WORKER, KHIN NYO, WERE STAY-  
ING IN BORDER TOWN OF WANKHA (PRESUMABLY SMALL HAMLET  
NEAR MAE SOT). TEXT OF LETTER AS FOLLOWS:

QUOTE: WE, THE TWO JOURNALISTS OF BURMA, REQUEST YOU  
TO FORGIVE US FOR THE REFUSAL TO DO AS YOU SUGGESTED.  
WE MET SOME JOURNALISTS, AND THEY SUGGESTED US TO GO  
BACK TO BORDER TOWN AND WRITE LETTERS TO THAI  
AUTHORITIES. THEY SAID, IF WE WERE GIVEN UP OURSELVES  
TO THAI OFFICIALS, THEY WILL, NO DOUBT, ARREST US AND  
DETAIN FOR FIVE TO 10 YEARS WITHOUT TRIAL. OVER MORE  
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THAN 50,000 REFUGEES ARE STILL IN THAI BORDER. THEY WILL

NOT CONSIDER OUR CASE AS SPECIAL.

QUOTE: NOW, WE HAVE SENT LETTERS TO THAI AUTHORITIES  
FOR POLITICAL ASYLUM OR TO GIVE US REFUGEE CERTIFICATES.  
MAY WE HOPE TO HELP US IF YOU COME ACROSS (SIC). NOW WE  
ARE AT WANKHA, BORDER TOWN. GOVERNMENT TROOPS (BURMESE?)  
FIRED BY MORTARS. MY WIFE AND THREE CHILDREN ARE IN A  
STATE OF ALARM. IF WE GO HOME, BURMESE OFFICIALS WILL, NO  
DOUBT, DETAIN ME AND TORTURE ME. IF WE PROCEED, THAI  
OFFICIALS WILL ARREST US. ANYHOW, I AM WRITING LETTERS  
TO MY FRIENDS AND OFFICIALS WHO, PROBABLY, COULD HELP  
US. (SIGNED, SOE MIN) END QUOTE.

3.EMBASSY PLANS NO RPT NO FURTHER ACTION ON MATTER.  
WHITEHOUSE

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** POLITICAL ASYLUM, PUBLIC CORRESPONDENCE  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 01 DEC 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** izenbei0  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Image Path:**  
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